NOTES TO STUDENT GUESTS IN TOWN HOMES

Although we all should have been more active in getting to know one another as persons, we have waited until a rather difficult hour to take a step to understnad each other as persons rather than as stereotypes. We have been fortunate to find people in Rutland and Middlebury who are willing to invite us into their houses because they want to have the opportunity to speak to young men and women who are very concerned about the current state of national affairs.

As well-bred college educated people, we know how to behave. Let's keep this in mind. Your hosts also know their social obligations and should extend their full hospitality to you. Let our appearance and speech provide the most comfortable setting for what is an essentially discomfitting sort of conversation.

The object of the evening is not to get someone to completely reverse long-held life styles and opinions, but to discuss common concerns - not necessarily the Cambodian situation and Kent State. We hope this can be the beginning of a longer term relationship between hosts and guests, but realize that schedule problems will prevent this in many cases.

Should you wish to continue your discussions at a later time, you might invite your host back to visit you and have dinner (at your expense) at the college.

This is a meeting of older, more experienced people with younger more motivated people, each of whom wishes to get behind the stereotypes and see the real person. The hosts will hopefully gain confidence in and lend support of the concerns of Middlebury College students. The guests will hopefully find a community of similar views and of useful counsel in the townspeople.

Don't overstay your welcome. Many people like to watch the 11 o'clock news and go to bed then (or earlier).

Thank you.

Ralph Nelson, Jr.
John Cuneo
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